

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

35 USC 102(e)

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated over US 6,559,212 B1 D'Errico et al. (D'Errico). Applicants traverse for the reason that D'Errico does not teach or suggest polyvinyl butyral (PVB) interlayers plasticized with tetraethylene glycol di heptanoate. Instead, D'Errico is focused on use of triethylene glycol di-2-ethylhexanoate. Consequently, withdrawal is respectfully requested.

35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1-26 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as anticipated over US 6,559,212 B1 D'Errico et al. (D'Errico) in view of US 5,091,258 Moran.

Applicants traverse for the reason that D'Errico does not teach or suggest interlayer comprising (i) PVB having a hydroxyl number in the range of from about 17 to about 23 and (ii) a single plasticizer in an amount in the range of from about 40 to about 50 parts per hundred (pph), wherein the plasticizer is tetraethylene glycol di heptanoate, and Moran would not lead the person of ordinary skill in the art to the claimed PVB or glass laminates.

D'Errico is focused on use of triethylene glycol di-2-ethylhexanoate.

At column 5, lines 53-57, Moran incorporates by reference the disclosure concerning plasticizers at column 5, lines 11-21, of US 4,902,464 (copy enclosed).

"In forming the extruded interlayer sheet, the lightly cross-linked PVB resin must be plasticized with from about 20 to 80 parts plasticizer per hundred parts of resin and more commonly between 25 and 45 parts for conventional laminated safety glass use. This latter concentration is generally used with polyvinyl butyrals containing 17 to 25% vinyl alcohol by weight. In general, plasticizers commonly employed are esters of a polybasic acid or a polyhydric alcohol. Particularly suitable plasticizers are triethylene glycol di-(2-ethyl butyrate), dihexyl adipate, dioctyl adipate, mixtures of heptyl and nonyl adipates, dibutyl sebacate, polymeric plasticizers such as the oil-modified sebacid alkyds, and mixtures of phosphates and adipates such as are disclosed in U.S. No. 3,841,890 and adipates and alkyl benzyl phthalates such as disclosed in U. S. No. 4,144,217. Other suitable plasticizers are well known or will be obvious to those skilled in the art."

In Example 1, Moran discloses use of PVB plasticized with 32 parts dihexyl adipate.

There is nothing in Moran that would lead the person of ordinary skill in the art to change the disclosed PVB to arrive at the claimed invention, particularly since D'Errico is

directed to improvements based upon use of triethylene glycol di-2-ethylhexanoate as plasticizer.

Consequently, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

The amendments to the claims are supported as follows:

All of the claims are amended to recite that the plasticizer is tetraethylene glycol di heptanoate (4G7), and claims focused on other plasticizers are cancelled. This plasticizer is described at page 4, lines 31-32, and is used in all of the examples demonstrating the invention.

Applicants have replaced the abbreviations in the claims with the full words.

The independent claims all recited “comprising or consisting essentially of.” They have been amended to use “comprising” and new independent claims 27-29 have been added in order to present claims with the phrase “consisting essentially of.”

New claims 30 and 31 are supported by the data presented in Figure 2, which is referred to in the Examples. Flexural damping was measured using ISO PDPAS 16940, as described at page 2, lines 18-19.

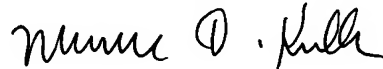
New claims 32-35 are based upon original claims 9, 10 and 14.

Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Should any matter remain unresolved by this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed direct dial telephone number in order to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Kuller".

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Attachment

US 4,902,464